

Commissioner Mtg. 08/06/07 @ 9:00 a.m. in County Commissioners Room

Those present:

Thomas Wilson Eric Roberts Don Vonder Meulen

Franklin County Auditor: Carol L. Monroe

Thomas Wilson opens meeting with pledge of allegiance

- I. Weekly Property Tax Report
 - a. Carol L. Monroe – still waiting on DLGF, when I talked to him (Dan Jones) Friday he thought it would be a good six weeks
 - b. Thomas Wilson – that is what I thought
 - c. Don Vonder Meulen – had a highway meeting Thursday afternoon and Hollie Sintz said we would not have money for fuel. Talked to Cheryl and it sounds like everything should be approved, hopefully this week.
 - d. John Estridge – what will they do for fuel?
 - e. Thomas Wilson – if the money is already there, council can approve it
 - f. Don Vonder Meulen – according to Hollie Sintz, she did not have money to pay for fuel. Waiting on money to be moved so she could buy fuel
- II. Treasurer's office change
 - a. Rebecca Oglesby – the Treasurers office will be validating/posting now. It may take a little longer at the window when people are paying their taxes. We will have one window for checks only and other for checks and cash. For those big real estate owners we are hoping they will let us work on those. We will try to have all three windows open.
 - b. Don Vonder Meulen – what percent are paid by mail?
 - c. Rebecca Oglesby – since this is a one time collection day, it is going to be huge. Mortgage companies have a (thousand) 1000 parcels per envelope. We are going to try and help those big mortgage companies. In the long run we will not have as much overtime.
- III. Cemetery Commission
 - a. Gene Stewart – question came up if cemetery commission can contract and I don't see why they can't
- IV. Fairfield Road (East of Saltwell) – Vacation of road
 - a. Joe Gillespie – prepared a petition initiated by the board of commissioners. If this is acceptable, you can sign. You will establish a hearing date. Property owners must be notified by mail.
 - b. Thomas Wilson – motion to sign petition (see attached)
 - c. Eric Roberts – seconds the motion
 - d. Don Vonder Meulen – all in favor
- V. Dog Ordinances
 - a. Ruth Hughes – we have some very capable ordinances on paper. Would like to avoid some headlines like Cincinnati has. Franklin County does have little pockets of fighting type dogs. Just wanted to make you aware of that. I think there are some things we can do to make Franklin County a safer place. We might give our small animal control officer more power. At this time he has no legal way to issue fines, etc. Asking if we could give the small animal control officer more authority. When he goes out he has to tell the person I will have to return with the sheriff. That is a waste of taxpayers time. Our dog catcher has the most unappreciated jobs in the county. I thought it was time to bring it to your attention. The small animal control officer is powerless and he needs power. I don't want to see headlines in our local paper that a child has been hurt. If a little more record keeping was done. Would like the public to know that it is illegal to dump animals on a public way. They would not be prosecuted by Franklin County but by the state of Indiana. It is very difficult for people to find our dog pound. It is not marked. Signs have been requested many years ago. There are no set hours for people to go and look for a lost animal.
 - b. Eric Roberts – is there a way to use volunteers
 - c. Ruth Hughes – I don't know where you would find them. We are always short on foster homes. Franklin County could be getting some revenue.
 - d. Thomas Wilson – as far as power, he would have to be deputized.
 - e. Gene Stewart – he is under the direction of the sheriff
 - f. Susan Jones – he would have to go through the schooling also
 - g. Thomas Wilson – he doesn't want to be deputized
 - h. Ruth Hughes – then Franklin County needs to put someone in place. The ordinances we have are very clear on paper. I am here to ask the county to give the power to enforce those ordinances.
 - i. Thomas Wilson – we will check into it, thanks
- VI. Fireworks ordinance
 - a. Gene Stewart – if you get too comprehensive you are going to have an enforcement problem
 - b. – (show bottle rocket) this travels three or four hundred feet over my house and across river road from ritz campground
 - c. Thomas Wilson – this says consumer on it (flip tape one). It is an isolated few that keep people up all night long
 - d. Gene – let me revise this and maybe put it under a nuisance. I'll have something next week
- VII. Waterson Dr. (Continued from last week)
 - a. Janet Hensley – questions if driveway is a public way or private
 - b. Eric Roberts – we don't think your driveway is a road

- VIII. Blue Creek Bridge #94/ Blue Creek Road over Blue Creek
 - a. John Graf – reviews plans with Commissioners. Trying to come up with a way to cut project short. The right of way is the issue.
 - b. Joe Gillespie – whatever we do we have to justify our costs.
- IX. Bridge #100/ Johnson Fork Road North of Snowhill Road Covered Bridge
 - a. John Graf – got a phone call and the prior contractor did not remove all of the prior structure. We will have to bring in equipment and move that.
 - b. Eric Roberts – someone didn't do their homework.
 - c. John Graf – planning on putting in rip-rap this week
 - d. Joe Gillespie – everyone out there knows what is going on
- X. Kenny Boatright Property
 - a. Larry Franzman – wanted to know if we would look at Galway and Welsh Dr. The established their bond in July. He is wanting George, myself and Chester to make sure the road has held up and wanting to know if you were going to authorize that.
 - b. Eric Roberts – we will look at it
- XI. Weekly Highway Engineer Report, George Hartman
 - a. Bridge #100 / Johnson Fork Road North of Snowhill Road Covered Bridge
 - i. Eric Roberts – questions mileage (LPA claim – see attached)
 - 1. John Graf – explains need to go to other places as well as other people needing to be there
 - 2. Don Vonder Meulen – motion to approve LPA claim
 - 3. Eric Roberts – still don't like answer on mileage
 - 4. Thomas Wilson – seconds the motion
 - 5. Eric Roberts – nay
 - 6. Don Vonder Meulen – could we ask for itemized
 - 7. Thomas Wilson – instructs George Hartman to get log for each engineer
 - ii. See photo (2)
 - b. Bridge #94 / Blue Creek Road over Blue Creek
 - i. I.N.D.O.T. asked for some additional information (counts toward our 20% match)
 - ii. Don Vonder Meulen – motion to sign letter to Brenda Fox (see attached)
 - iii. Thomas Wilson – seconds the motion
 - iv. Eric Roberts – all in favor
 - c. Bridge #110/Railfence Road over Salt Creek Des. No. 0200725 and Bridge #111/Railfence Road over Harvey Branch Des. No. 0500802 (Project No 9924 (08))
 - i. Thomas Wilson – motion to sign letter to Brenda Fox (see attached)
 - ii. Eric Roberts – seconds the motion
 - iii. Don Vonder Meulen – all in favor
 - d. Bridge #48 / Pipe Creek Road over Pipe Creek
 - i. Talked to Mr. Cooper about metal grid deck
 - ii. See letter to Kevin Loiselle
 - e. Programmatic Sign Improvement Project (Federal and Hazard Elimination and Safety Funded Project) Des. No. 0501216
 - i. The funding is now in place with INDOT (\$500,000.00) from criminal justice into public transportation
 - ii. It along with other documents in construction office
 - iii. Sometime this week should get notice to proceed
 - iv. Virtually we are at the point to obligate
 - v. Next will be a preconstruction meeting
 - vi. Once this project is completed (3 years) Franklin County will be required to do a traffic (accident) study
 - vii. Don Vonder Meulen - Hollie Sintz was concerned about having money to spend (first)
 - 1. Carol L. Monroe – it might fall underneath the category of reimbursable grants that can run into the red
 - 2. Thomas Wilson – also there is money in local road and street
- XII. Public Transportation
 - a. Thomas Wilson – I signed the 2nd quarter reimbursement
- XIII. Metamora Sewer Project
 - a. Thomas Wilson – I signed the close out
- XIV. Town of Cedar Grove
 - a. Eric Roberts – approached by town concerning speed limit
 - b. George Hartman – there could be some advisory's
- XV. Claims
 - a. Eric Roberts – move to accept as advertised
 - b. Carol L. Monroe – questions if there are any notes on any of the claims
 - c. Thomas Wilson – no, seconds the motion
 - d. Don Vonder Meulen – all in favor
 - e. Thomas Wilson – note the attorney bill for Marlene Flaspohler was reduced by \$2,000.00
- XVI. Minutes (July 30, 2007) (flip tape two)
 - a. Don Vonder Meulen – motion to approve
 - b. Eric Roberts – seconds the motion
 - c. Thomas Wilson – all in favor
- XVII. Amendment to Insurance Program for transplants
 - a. Thomas Wilson – could pay a little bit more
 - b. Eric Roberts – move Thomas Wilson sign addendum

- c. Don Vonder Meulen – seconds the motion
 - d. Thomas Wilson – all in favor
- XVIII. Air Conditioner at Jail
- a. Dale Maxie – submits air conditioner bill (over \$2,000.00)
 - b. Thomas Wilson – it is nickel and dime “ing” us to death. This year alone we have spent twenty or thirty thousand
 - c. Dale Maxie – more!
 - d. Thomas Wilson – if council adopts that new tax it could pay for this?
 - e. Carol L. Monroe - yes
- XIX. Adjourn
- a. Thomas Wilson – motion
 - b. Eric Roberts seconds the motion
 - c. Don Vonder Meulen – all in favor

Those also present:

Susan Jones, Secretary	George Hartman, County Engineer	Larry Franzman, Area Plan Director
Carol Westerman	Joe Gillespie, Surveyor	Rebecca Oglesby, Treasurer
Jessica Bunyard, News Examiner	John Graf	John Estridge, Whitewater Publications
Gene Stewart, Attorney	Sharon Halcomb, Assessor	Ruth Hughes
Janet Hensley	Eargeh Caudill	

To be approved 08/13/07